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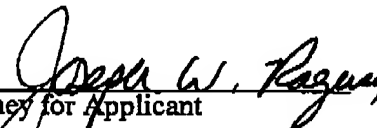
This is a divisional application of Application No. 09/203,510 filed December 1, 1998, which has issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,285,441.

Claims 11, 12 and 14-20 remain pending in this application. Claims 11, 14, 15 and 17 are in independent form. Claim 14 has been amended to place it independent form. Claim 21 has been added to mirror Claim 12 for new independent Claim 14.

Early and favorable consideration is earnestly requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


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Atty. Docket No. 03560.002296.1***VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS**

14. (Amended) An image reader [according to Claim 11], comprising:

(a) a transparent plate adapted to contact an original;

(b) an image sensor unit including a light source adapted to illuminate the original, a reading element adapted to read an image of the original, and a housing adapted to mount said light source and said reading element, said housing being a rectangular parallelepiped and having a shaft or a bearing, said shaft or said bearing being disposed so as to be parallel to said reading element and said shaft or said bearing being provided so as not to protrude from said rectangular parallelepiped;

(c) a holding member adapted to hold said image sensor unit; and

(d) a motor adapted to shift a positional relationship between the image of the original and said image sensor unit held by said holding member,

wherein said housing has integrally formed therewith a spacer adapted to maintain a distance between said transparent and said image sensor unit.

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